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SUBJECT: SOUTHEAST TURKEY PRESS SUMMARY
SEPTEMBER 06-07-08, 2003

1. This is the Southeastern Turkey press summary for September 06-07-08, 2003. Please note that Turkish press reports often contain errors or exaggerations; AmConsulate Adana does not vouch for the accuracy of the reports summarized here.

POLITICAL, SECURITY, HUMAN RIGHTS

2. Evrensel / In a meeting organized by the Van Democratic People's Party (DEHAP), about 30,000 people gathered to celebrate World Peace Day. Tuncer Bakirhan, head of the Van DEHAP chapter, stated that DEHAP does not want to see Turkish troops in Iraq.

3. Evrensel / Ali Aksan in Mersin province, was not allowed to register his children's names in Kurdish. Two of the names were rejected because they were the names of two PKK/KADEK members. Aksan stated that he has filed a letter of complaint at the public prosecutor's office for the unfair treatment.

4. Sabah, Guney, Turkiye / People found a suspicious package in front of Adana Akbank on Kiyiboyu Street. After the bomb specialist exploded the package, they found that it was full of paper.

5. Turkiye / Police arrested five people: E. Kamalak, A. Kirac, M. Kirac, B. Demirci and R. Kirac in Kahramanmaraş province for illegally hiding approximately 7kg of marijuana.

6. Evrensel / Youth branches of SDP, DEHAP and SHP organized a meeting in Adana for the Peace Day celebrations. The crowds shouted complaints against the USA and against the possible deployment of Turkish troops in Iraq.

7. Turkiye / Three people who unfurled the PKK/KADEK flag in public and subsequently attacked police during the Peace day meeting in Mersin were arrested.

8. Turkiye / Syria surrendered 9 PKK/KADEK terrorists to Turkey in Hatay province. The terrorists allegedly were responsible for the Kurdish Democratic Association.

9. Turkiye / In Siirt and Mus provinces, three children died after playing with grenades they had found in a field.

10. Milliyet / Six high school students in Gaziantep participated in a meeting advocating "No war in Iraq". Police detained the students for a day. Although they were released on the same day, their schools punished the students for undisciplinatory action and discharged them. Now, according to the law, the students have to apply to schools outside of Gaziantep to continue their education.

ECONOMIC

11. Sabah, Guney / The "American Corner" in Gaziantep, which was opened about three months ago, is very popular among investors, businessmen and students. About 250 people visit the center every month.

112. Turkiye / In Hekimhan, Malatya province, MTA, Turkish Metal Research Center, is going to start searching for gold.

CULTURE and TOURISM

113. Turkiye / About 90 people, under the supervision of Professor A. Yener, from Chicago University, started the excavation work at the Atcana Hill archeological site in Reyhanli, Hatay. Yener sated that the work will continue until October 15.

114. Evrensel, Hurriyet / Famous musicians Leman Sam and Tuluyhan Ugurlu had a performance on Nemrud Mountain peak in Adiyaman on September

116. A large crowd was on the mountain to listen to the performance.

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